

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-05 CPR-01 EB-08 OC-06
CCO-00 /107 W
-----071688 010817Z /17

R 310940Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9161
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0402

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 4 DIMPTD
TAGS: PDIP PBOR PEPR LA UK
SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESENT PROTEST TO LAO MFA OVER TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

REF: A VIENTIANE 0363, B VIENTIANE 0384

1. A BRITISH COLLEAGUE INFORMED US THAT THE BRITISH
CHARGE MARCH 30 PERSONALLY DELIVERED A WRITTEN PROTEST
TO THE LAO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REGARDING THE
LPDR PROHIBITION ON DIPLOMATS' USE OF THE THA DEUA-NONG
KHAI RIVER CROSSING POINT. THE CHARGE SAW THE CHIEF OF
THE MFA CONSULAR DEPARTMENT, SALY KHAMSY, WHO REPORTED
LY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE LAO TO HEAR ALL COMPLAINTS
REGARDING THE RESTRICTION.

2. SALY LISTENED TO THE CHARGE'S EXPLANATION OF THE
PRACTICAL PROBLEMS THAT THE RESTRICTION WOULD CAUSE THE
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BRITISH EMBASSY, INCLUDING DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING
OFFICIAL EMBASSY SUPPLIES AND COOKING GAS FOR BRITISH
RESIDENCES. SALY RESPONDED THAT IT APPEARED THAT BIG
COUNTRIES WERE ONLY INTERESTED IN THEIR MATERIAL NEEDS
AND WERE UNCONCERNED ABOUT THE LPDR'S SECURITY NEEDS.
HE THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH
OTHER CONCERNED LAO AUTHORITIES, HE FELT THAT IT WOULD

BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE PAPERS PERMITTING A BRITISH EMBASSY VEHICLE TO CROSS THE RIVER (AND RETURN) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PICKING UP IN NONG KHAI OFFICIAL EMBASSY SUPPLIES OR PERSONAL EFFECTS OF PEOPLE ON THE BRITISH DIPLOMATIC LIST. (THIS WOULD ELIMINATE THE NECESSITY OF GETTING PAPERS FROM THE LAO EMBASSY IN BANGKOK AUTHORIZING THE VEHICLE'S REENTRY TO LAOS AS ORIGINALLY CALLED FOR IN THE RESTRICTION NOTICE, REF A.)

3. SALY PRESSED THE CHARGE AS TO WHAT OTHER EMBASSIES PLANNED TO PROTEST, BUT THE CHARGE ONLY RESPONDED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD SEVERAL OTHER CHIEFS OF MISSION WERE CONSULTING THEIR GOVERNMENTS ON THE HYTHUR. SALY PROMISED THE CHARGE THAT THE BRITISH EMBASSY WOULD RECEIVE A RESPONSE TO THEIR DEMARCHE.
ROBERTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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